



PATENT

Attorney Docket No. (0320-0017) HOOV 117

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In Re Application of:

Michael D. Hooven, et al.

Serial No.: 10/015,868

Filed: December 12, 2001

Group Art No.: 3739

Examiner: Rosiland S. Kearney

For: TRANSMURAL ABLATION DEVICE
WITH THIN ELECTRODES

Mail Stop RCE
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria VA 22313-1450

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING BY "EXPRESS MAIL"
"Express Mail" Mailing Label No.: EV321710091US

Date of Deposit September 10, 2003

I hereby certify that this paper or fee is being deposited with the United States Postal Service "Express Mail Post Office Box Addressee" service under 37 CFR 1.10 on the date indicated above and is addressed to the Mail Stop RCE, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria VA 22313-1450

NAME May I. Casimiro

SIGNATURE May I. Casimiro

RECEIVED
SEP 15 2003
TECHNOLOGY CENTER R3700

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT
FILED WITH REQUEST FOR CONTINUED EXAMINATION

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §1.114, Applicant hereby calls the Examiner's attention to documents listed on the attached form, which documents may be material to the examination of this application. A copy of each of the documents, except U.S. Application 2002/0091384 A1, is provided in U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 10/032,378, which is relied upon for an earlier effective filing date of the present application. U.S. Application 2002/0091384 A1 is the published application of U.S. Patent

Application Serial No. 10/032,378, and thus was not enclosed in Application Serial No. 10/032,378. Accordingly, a copy of U.S. Application 2002/0091384 is provided with this Request for Continued Examination.

No inference should be drawn that any method disclosed is equivalent to the subject invention. Also, the citation of the above-discussed documents is not to be construed as an assertion that more pertinent art could not possibly be in existence. Citation of any document herein is not to be construed as an admission that any subject matter disclosed in the document is necessarily within the inventive field of endeavor, that any disclosure is necessarily prior in time to a particular date which may be relevant to the instant patent application, and/or that any disclosure is otherwise necessarily prior art with respect to the instant invention.

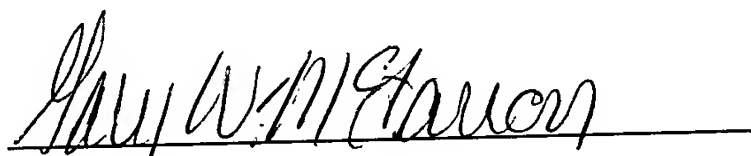
Applicant also respectfully reserves the right to later set forth how the instant invention is distinguished over the disclosure of any document or other art, including the disclosure of those documents discussed herein, that may be cited by the Examiner in rejecting a claim in the present patent application.

This Request for Continued Examination is being filed after the mailing date of after the Notice of Allowance. Accordingly, a check for the amount of \$375.00, the fee for the submission of this Request for Continued Examination, is contained along with this cover letter and the Information Disclosure Statement. Additionally, authorization is hereby given to charge any additional fees or credit any overpayments to Deposit Account 50-1039. (A duplicate of this document is enclosed herewith.)

Respectfully submitted,

Date: September 10, 2003

By:



Gary W. McFarron, Esq.
Registration No. 27,357
Cook, Alex, McFarron, Manzo,
Cummings & Mehler, Ltd.
200 West Adams St., Suite 2850
Chicago, IL 60606
Telephone: (312) 236-8500

Attorneys for Applicant

Under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it contains a valid OMB control number.

Substitute for form 1449/PTO INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT (Use as many sheets as necessary)		Complete if Known	
		Application Number	10/015,868
		Filing Date	December 12, 2001
		First Named Inventor	Michael D. Hooven
		Art Unit	3739
		Examiner Name	Rosiland S. Kearney
Attorney Docket Number	0320-0017 (HOOV 117)		
Sheet	1	of	3

U. S. PATENT DOCUMENTS					
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Document Number	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
		Number-Kind Code ² (if known)			
	1	US- 2,004,559	06-11-1935	Wappler, et al.	
	2	US- 3,470,875	10-07-1969	Johnson, et al.	
	3	US- 4,312,337	01-26-1982	Donohue, et al.	
	4	US- 5,033,477	07-23-1991	Chin, et al.	
	5	US- 5,071,428	12-10-1991	Chin et al.	
	6	US- 6,083,222	07-04-2000	Klien, et al.	
	7	US- 6,096,037	08-01-2000	Mulier, et al.	
	8	US- 6,443,970	09-03-2002	Schulze, et al.	
	9	US- 2002/0120263 A1	08-29-2002	Brown, Tony R. et al	
	10	US- 2003/0004507 A1	01-02-2003	Francischelli, et al	
	11	US- 2003/0073991 A1	04-17-2003	Francischelli, et al	
	12	US- 6,517,536	02-11-2003	Hooven, Michael D.	
	13	US- 6,546,935	04-15-2003	Hooven, Michael D.	
	14	US- 2003/0125729 A1	07-03-2003	Hooven, Michael D.	
	15	US- 2003/0093068 A1	03-15-2003	Hooven, Michael D.	
	16	US- 2003/0032952 A1	03-13-2003	Hooven, Michael D.	
	17	US- 2003/0018329 A1	01-23-2003	Hooven, Michael D.	
	18	US- 2002/0107514 A1	08-08-2002	Hooven, Michael D.	
	19	US- 2002/0115993 A1	08-22-2002	Hooven, Michael D.	

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS						
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Foreign Patent Document	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages Or Relevant Figures Appear	T ⁶
		Country Code ³ Number ⁴ Kind Code ⁵ (if known)				
	20	WO 02 / 087454 A1	11-07-2002	Medtronic, Inc.		

Examiner Signature	Date Considered
--------------------	-----------------

*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant. ¹ Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). ² See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at www.uspto.gov or MPEP 901.04. ³ Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). ⁴ For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. ⁵ Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 16 if possible. ⁶ Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 2 hours to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, Washington, DC 20231. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, Washington, DC 20231.

If you need assistance in completing the form, call 1-800-PTO-9199 (1-800-786-9199) and select option 2.

Under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it contains a valid OMB control number.

Substitute for form 1449/PTO

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE
STATEMENT BY APPLICANT**

(Use as many sheets as necessary)

Complete if Known

Application Number	10/015,868
Filing Date	December 12, 2001
First Named Inventor	Michael D. Hooven
Art Unit	3739
Examiner Name	Rosiland S. Kearney
Attorney Docket Number	0320-0017 (HOOV 117)

Sheet 2 of 3

U. S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Document Number	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
		Number-Kind Code ² (if known)			
	21	US- 2002/0120316 A1	08-08-2002	Hooven, Michael D.	
	22	US- 2002/0103484 A1	08-01-2002	Hooven, Michael D.	
	23	US- 2002/0091384 A1	07-11-2002	Hooven, Michael D.	
	24	US- 2002/0091383 A1	07-11-2002	Hooven, Michael D.	
	25	US- 2002/0091382 A1	07-11-2002	Hooven, Michael D.	
	26	US- 2002/0032440 A1	03-14-2002	Hooven, Michael D.	
	27	US- 2001/0031961 A1	10-18-2001	Hooven, Michael D.	
	28	US- 6,488,680	12-03-2002	Francischelli et al.	
	29	US- 6,267,761	07-31-2001	Ryan	
	30	US- 6,273,887	08-14-2001	Yamauchi et al.	
	31	US- 6,296,640	10-02-2001	Wampler et al.	
	32	US- 6,391,024	05-21-2002	Sun et al.	
	33	US- 2001/0039419 A1	11-08-2001	Francischelli et al.	
	34	US- 6,277,117	08-21-2001	Tetzlaff et al.	
		US-			
		US-			
		US-			
		US-			
		US-			

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Foreign Patent Document	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages Or Relevant Figures Appear	T ⁶
		Country Code ³ -Number ⁴ -Kind Code ⁵ (if known)				
	35	WO 01/82812 A1	11-08-2001	Medtronic, Inc.		
	36	WO 01/82813 A2	11-08-2001	Medtronic, Inc.		
	37	WO 01/82813 A3	11-08-2001	Medtronic, Inc.		

Examiner
SignatureDate
Considered

*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant. ¹ Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). ² See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at www.uspto.gov or MPEP 901.04. ³ Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). ⁴ For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. ⁵ Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 16 if possible. ⁶ Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 2 hours to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, Washington, DC 20231. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND

TO: Commissioner for Patents, Washington, DC 20231.

If you need assistance in completing the form, call 1-800-PTO-9199 (1-800-786-9199) and select option 2.

PTO/SB/08B (08-00)
Approved for use through 10/31/2002. OMB 0651-0031
U. S. Patent and Trademark Office: U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
Distribution of information unless it contains a valid OMB control number.

Substitute for form 1449B/PTO INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT <i>(use as many sheets as necessary)</i>				Complete if Known	
				Application Number	10/015,868
				Filing Date	December 12, 2001
				First Named Inventor	Michael D. Hooven
				Group Art Unit	3739
				Examiner Name	Rosiland S. Kearney
				Attorney Docket Number	HOOV 117 (0320-0017)
Sheet	3	of	3		

[illegible]

Examiner Signature		Date Considered	
--------------------	--	-----------------	--

Signature _____

*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

¹ Unique citation designation number. ² Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

¹ Unique citation designation number. ² Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language translation.

Burden Hour Statement: This form is estimated to take 2.0 hours to complete. Time will vary depending upon the needs of the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you are required to complete this form should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U. S. Patent and Trademark Office, Washington, DC 20231. **DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO:** Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, DC 20231.